GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
RAILWAYS
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:4611
ANSWERED ON:23.08.2001
ENCROACHMENT OF RAILWAY LAND
MADAN PRASAD JAISWAL

Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) the arrangements made by the Government for preventing encroachment on railway land;

(b) whether there is any Government machinery to get information about these encroachments ;

(c) whether officers are responsible for preventing encroachment on railway land;

(d) if so, the reasons for encroachments despite fixing the responsibility in this regard and the number of officers assigned the responsibility of preventing the encroachment on Railway land ; and

(e) the reaction of the Government in this regard?

Answer

MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS AND PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (SHRI O. RAJAGOPAL)

(a) to (e): A statement is attached.

STATEMENT REFERRED TO IN REPLY TO PARTS (a) TO (e) OF LOK SABHA UNSTARRED QUESTION NO.4611 BY DR. M.P. JAISWAL TO BE ANSWERED ON 23.08.2001 REGARDING ENCROACHMENT OF RAILWAY LAND

(a) to (e): The railway land boundary has been demarcated at site by putting boundary posts. Fencing and boundary walls are provided in vulnerable areas There are legal deterrents to encroachments also, such as the Public Premises (Eviction of Unauthorised Occupants) Act, 1971. The Railways Act, 1989 also has a provision in Section 147 that any person trying to encroach upon the railway land is a trespasser and is liable to be evicted and punished. The field officials have instructions to be vigilant in regard to encroachments on railway land and prevent the same. If they are unable to prevent any encroachment, they have to immediately inform the matter to local Police for assistance and to higher officials. These officials carry out frequent inspections in their jurisdictions to get information about encroachments to prevent encroachments and evict encroachers. The Railways Act, 1989 provides for any railway servant to prevent and remove such trespass. There is pressure on public land in urban areas due to urban migration. Railway lands lie in ribbon like long stretches and are thus difficult to safeguard from incidents of trespassing and encroachments despite continuous efforts to prevent these.. The Government wants to prevent all trespass/encroachments and wants to remove encroachers from railway lands.